

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ZAGREB 00007 070859Z

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

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SAM-01 CPR-01 /062 W

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R 060925Z JAN 76

FM AMCONSUL ZAGREB

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3518

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, YO

SUBJECT: TITO CELEBRATES THE NEW YEAR IN ZAGREB

1. PRESIDENT TITO AND WIFE, JOVANKA, CONCLUDED LAST NIGHT, JANUARY 5, A HIGHLY PUBLICIZED VISIT TO ZAGREB. DURING THEIR VISIT THEY ATTENDED THE THEATRE A COUPLE OF TIMES, VISITED WITH LOCAL ARTISTS, AND MADE ANOTHER SENTIMENTAL EXCURSION TO TITO'S BIRTH-PLACE, KUMROVEC. TITO'S NEW YEAR'S EVE CELEBRATIONS, WHICH LASTED UNTIL SIX O'CLOCK IN THE MORNING, INCLUDED ATTENDING THE OPERA, A FESTIVE DINNER AT THE NEW INTERCONTINENTAL HOTEL ZAGREB AND SPENDING A FEW HOURS AT THE CLUB OF THE YUGOSLAV ARMY.

2. THE LOCAL PRESS GAVE CONSIDERABLE PLAY TO TITO'S SOCIAL ACTIVITIES EMPHASIZING HIS GOOD MOOD AND THE "GOOD TIME" HE WAS HAVING. SECURITY IN ZAGREB THROUGHOUT THIS PERIOD WAS EXTRA-ORDINARILY HEAVY, INCLUDING THE USE OF SOLDIERS, UNIFORMED AND NON-UNIFORMED POLICE. WE UNDERSTAND THAT HUNDREDS OF "QUESTIONABLE" PEOPLE WERE TEMPORARILY DETAINED DURING TITO'S VISIT.

3. COMMENT: TITO'S OSTENTATIONSLY PUBLIC VISIT TO ZAGREB FOLLOWING THE BOMBING INCIDENTS HERE LAST SEPTEMBER WAS PROBABLY DESIGNED IN PART TO CONVEY THE IMPRESSION OF CONFIDENCE AND COMPLETE CONTROL. THIS IS CONSISTENT WITH THE EFFORTS OF THE CROATIAN

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PAGE 02 ZAGREB 00007 070859Z

AUTHORITIES IN RECENT MONTHS TO DEMONSTRATE THAT THEY ARE WELL

ABLE TO HANDLE THE ASSORTMENT OF DISSIDENT ELEMENTS IN CROATIA.
KAISER

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